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legislative assembly," "The courts," "Early settlements" (three chapters), "Mines and mining — possibilities of the territory — resumption of mail and stage lines," "The Catholic church in Arizona," "Early surveys," "The Colorado river Indian reservation." The volumes form an entertaining, but indiscriminating, source book, the raw materials for a history of Arizona; they probably fill the prescription of the statute which gave them birth, but they are not a history of Arizona.

E. C. B.

*Taming of the Sioux.* By Frank Fiske. (Bismarek, North Dakota: Bismarek Tribune, 1917, 186 p. \$1.50)

The spectacular military history of the Sioux forms an exceptional basis for popular writing, and it is but natural that writers will from time to time relate the story in a popular vein. Such literature finds abundant outlet in the changing and increasing population of the northwest, especially in those states where the Siouan history is somewhat local. To this category belongs Mr. Fiske's book which recites in a general, non-technical yet readable way, the military history of the Sioux nation since the Minnesota massacre. No attempt is made at accurate detailed statement; in but few cases is authority given, and no new material is presented. The author's approach is from the angle of readability. It is free from bias and the reader does not detect a desire on the part of the author to champion either the cause of the Indian or of the white.

The story follows accepted history quite closely and it is comparatively free from wild extravagant statements which so frequently characterize popular western history. At times, however, the author does not resist the temptation to tell "a good one" as is illustrated by his story of the wagon box fight. The treatment of the battle of the Little Big Horn is far too general even for a popular history; undercurrents such as treaties, affairs on the reservations, and food hardly enter into the story.

The book is of but little value to the student of plains history, but if it serves to keep alive a healthy interest in local history in the northwest, it will answer a good purpose.

M. L. WILSON

*Cruise of the Corwin.* Journal of the arctic expedition of 1881 in search of De Long and the Jeannette. By John Muir, edited by William Frederic Badè. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin company, 1917. 279 p. \$2.75 net)

Many persons still in active life recall vividly the tragic story of the *Jeannette* which, under the enthusiastic De Long in 1879 sailed through Behring straits into the Arctic ocean in quest of the north pole. The same autumn two vessels were missing also from the whaling fleet in the

north Pacific, and the following winter was so severe that an insistent demand was made upon congress and President Garfield for a relief expedition.

The *Corwin* was a finely built steamer in the service of the treasury department for the enforcement of federal laws for the protection of the fur seals and the sea-otters. The reports her commander brought back from the waters of Behring sea as a result of his trip in 1880 were disquieting, and when she sailed in 1881 it was with orders to seek information concerning the *Jeannette* and the missing whalers, and to extend to them any needed assistance. Fortunately Captain Hooper of the *Corwin* was a friend of Muir and urged him to go as naturalist.

Muir made up his mind on short notice to accept the unusual opportunity to visit the Arctic and wrote his mother as follows:

"I have been interested for a long time in the glaciation of the Pacific Coast, and I felt that I must make a trip of this sort to the Far North some time, and no better chance could in any probability offer. I am acquainted with our captain, and have every comfort the ship can afford, and every facility to pursue my studies. . . . As the ice melts and breaks up, we will probably push eastward around Point Barrow, then return to the Siberian side to pick up our land party, then endeavor to push through the ice to the mysterious unexplored Wrangell Land."

Although Wrangell Land had been reported by whalers as early as 1867, yet, so far as records go, the party from the *Corwin* was the first to set foot on its barren shores; this they did August 12, 1881. Muir's narrative of the trip to the island, and to many other almost equally unknown points in Behring sea and the Arctic, is written in that clear, vivid style of which he was a recognized master. A portion of this account was published originally in Captain Hooper's report of the voyage of the *Corwin* which appeared as a senate executive document in 1884. But during the trip, Muir wrote a series of letters to the *San Francisco Evening Bulletin*, embodying the contents of his daily record, and these are made the basis of the present volume. To them has been added new matter from Muir's private journal, and notes from various sources.

Thus, while the major part of the material was in print, it has been heretofore inaccessible, and even at best so scattered that its use was not easy. In fact, one may doubt whether even those who seek for Muir's writings because of their pleasure in them have known of the material brought together here. As presented in a single volume, the work will be readily available to a wide circle of readers who could not have enjoyed it otherwise.

To the geologist, this volume will appeal because of its record of studies on glaciation; to the naturalist, it furnishes a wealth of information on

flora and fauna in a region even now little known; the student of primitive life among American and Asiatic peoples will rejoice to find accurate records of various tribes before they came into degrading contact with the white race. And all these accounts are presented with a charm in style and a clarity in statement that make Muir's work attractive and all but unique.

Mr. Badè, the editor, is to be congratulated on the success with which he has woven this material into a work that is a real unit, and that breathes throughout the admirable style of Muir, as if written in its present form by his hand. The utilization of Muir's sketches gives added interest and value to the work. Some of them, like those of Wrangell Land, are the only representations in existence of that little-known island.

HENRY B. WARD